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Congress at Rome, Mr. N. M. Brooks, chief of the foreign division of the Post Office Department, and Mr. Edward Rosewater of Omaha, Neb. There will be one hundred delegates in all. The Congress will have a good many matters of detail to deal with in regard to the transmission of mail through different countries. One of the chief items on its program will be the subject of two-cent international postage instead of the present rate, and the devising of a universal postage stamp which may be bought in one country and used anywhere for foreign postage. There is now a general demand among the great traveling public for both these reforms, and it is to be hoped that the Congress will set itself firmly to the meeting of this demand. The Congress is certain to prove, in any event, another powerful link in the chain of influences which are binding the nations more and more completely and permanently into a universal world union and brotherhood.

The Eighteenth of May.

The observance of the 18th of May, the anniversary of the opening of the Hague Conference in 1899, in the public schools of the country and elsewhere gives promise of being much more extensive this year than ever before. The action of the Superintendents of Public Instruction in Massachusetts and Ohio last year in recommending, and to a considerable extent securing, the observance of the day by suitable exercises in the schools has awakened much interest in other States. A letter has been sent by the Directors of the American Peace Society (enclosing the circular sent last year by Secretary Martin to all superintendents of schools in Massachusetts) to the Superintendents of Public Instruction in all the States and Territories, inviting their coöperation in securing a wider observance of this Peace Anniversary. Several have already responded that they will do so this year. Others have expressed full sympathy with the movement and the hope that they may be able to coöperate another year. Others have declared their willingness to have the day observed by any local superintendents who may desire to do so. Arrangements are also being made for appropriate exercises on that day in a number of colleges and universities where much interest in arbitration has been awakened through the action of the Mohonk Committee appointed last year. Our members and friends in all parts of the country are urged to use their influence with local school principals and teachers in their neighborhoods in promoting the appropriate observance of the day. Simple programs, like those outlined in this paper, can be easily arranged for a morning or afternoon hour, and thus the minds of the pupils be made acquainted with the principles and purposes of the great arbitration and peace movement now so rapidly dominating the world. The American Peace Society will be glad to furnish literature to superintendents and teachers at the bare cost of publication and posting. Let the day be made a great and memorable one.

Brevities.

. . . Mrs. Hannah J. Bailey, Superintendent of the Peace Department of the National W. C. T. U., sends out the following to the local Unions in all the States: "The 18th of May, the anniversary of the opening of the Hague Conference in 1899, has become a general Peace Day, and it is desirable that the W. C. T. U. Peace Department observe it as widely as possible. While our December Peace Day is well adapted to be observed in the churches, our spring Peace Day seems especially adapted to the public schools, and I wish that every local Union would arrange, as far as possible, to have the day observed by the schools in its locality, either individually or collectively in a joint public meeting. Printed suggestive programs can be obtained at our office, Winthrop Centre, Me. Send two-cent stamp."

. . . The government of Greece has proposed that the questions in dispute between her and Roumania be submitted to the Hague Court for adjustment.

. . . The International Peace Bureau at Berne reports that the essays which have been sent in for the Narcisse Thibault prize of 1,500 francs number sixty-one. Thirty-nine are in French, fifteen in German, six in English and one in Swedish. The total number of words of the essays is 465,000. The jury to decide among the essays consists of Hodgson Pratt, Emile Arnaud, Leon de Montluc, Prof. W. Marcusen, Senator La Fontaine and Prof. Michel Revon. Some of the manuscripts are said to be "most remarkable" productions.

. . . The delegates who have been chosen by President Roosevelt to the third Pan-American Congress, which is to meet at Rio Janeiro, Brazil, on the 21st of July, are Hon. William I. Buchanan of Buffalo, former Minister to Argentina and the first delegate to the Second Pan-American Congress; President Edmund J. James, of Illinois State University; Leo S. Rowe, professor of Political Science at the University of Pennsylvania; Tulio Larrinaga, present Porto Rican Commissioner to the United States; and James S. Harlan of Illinois. This is an unusually strong body of delegates, and fittingly headed by Mr. Buchanan, who did such remarkable service in saving the Mexico City Conference from breaking up, and in bringing it to such a successful issue.

. . . The delegation to the coming Hague Conference has been completed by the addition of Judge-Advocate-General Davis of the army and Captain Charles S. Sperry of the navy to those already appointed, namely, Ex-Ambassadors Joseph H. Choate and Horace Porter and Judge Rose of Arkansas.

. . . The American Peace Society has lost two very valuable members by the death of William Ellis, of Baraboo, Wis., and Henry S. Perham, of Chelmsford, Mass. Mr. Ellis had long been connected with the peace movement, having done excellent service for it in England before coming to this country. Mr. Perham was one of the numerous soldiers of the Civil War who were made open and earnest friends of peace by what they saw personally of what Sherman called "hell." He was always watching for opportunities to advance the principles of peace and goodwill which had come to mean so much to him, and we have rarely met a man of his steadfastness, persistence and optimistic devotion to the

cause. He loathed war and did all in his power to help other men to see its true nature.

. . . It is reported that Italy has proposed to France that an effort be made to establish a permanent arbitration board for the adjustment of all questions between Venezuela and European nations, and that the powers favor the proposal. Venezuela is not a party to the Hague Court. This probably accounts for the form of the proposal.

. . . It is reported that the number of plans submitted by architects of different countries for the Carnegie Peace Palace at The Hague will run up to at least six hundred. The jury of award has our warmest sympathies. What a fine lot of peacemakers the architects must be to furnish us such an exhibition as this! No other offer of a prize for anything connected with peace has ever brought out such an array of contestants.

. . . In a recent speech at Dundee, Scotland, Sir John Leng said that Great Britain's expenditure on her navy had gone up in ten years from eighteen and one-half million pounds sterling to forty-two millions, and that on the army from twenty millions to thirty-seven and eight-tenths millions; in other words, that she is now spending, in round numbers, eighty millions sterling (\$400,000,000) on her army and navy. This constituted, he said, a great financial peril to the country.

. . . The State Department has received word from one of its agents in Manchuria saying that the Japanese troops will soon all be out of Manchuria, that the civil administration will be taken over by the Chinese governor and that the country will then be opened up to the world. We all hope that no such gigantic tragedy as the Manchurian war will ever curse that land again.

. . . Replying recently to a trade union deputation in regard to old-age pensions for British workmen, Mr. Asquith, Chancellor of the Exchequer, said that, though in sympathy with the suggestion, there was no fund by which he could meet the need. The only way of getting one for this, as well as for other social reforms, was by cutting down extravagance, reducing the debt and bringing the finances of the country into a sounder condition. Everybody knows that by extravagance he meant the enormous sums annually expended on the navy and army. Will these be materially reduced by the present government?

. . . Lord Roberts, in trying to carry forward his scheme of having every British school boy taught to use a rifle and shoot straight, made an appeal for \$500,000. He collected \$9,000! It is to be hoped that this failure is an indication of the opposition of the British public to his unworthy scheme and of their good sense in not allowing themselves to be led away by his fallacious arguments.

. . . An organization has been effected in Columbia University to make work for arbitration and peace among the students permanent hereafter. At the inauguration of it addresses were made by Hon. Oscar S. Straus and Dr. Lyman Abbott.

. . . Among the important meetings held by the peace societies of Germany in February was that at Munich. The principal address was by Professor Quidde, on the Moroccan question and the relations between France

and Germany. A resolution was voted in which the French were congratulated on their conciliatory disposition and a pacific agreement declared to be more important than any advantages which might be drawn from Morocco.

. . . The Baroness von Suttner has been lecturing in Bohemia, at Prague and Teplitz, on the subject of the "Organization of an International Order," and receiving enthusiastic ovations. Her utterances are reported to have produced a profound impression upon her audiences.

. . . The Minister of Public Instruction in Italy, in response to the suggestions of E. T. Moneta, president of the Lombard Peace Union (Milan), made a special effort to have all the schools of Italy participate in the peace manifestation of the 22d of February.

. . . As a result of the Peace Bulletin posted in the great cities of Europe, in French, English, German, Italian and Flemish, in connection with the manifestation of the 22d of February, an enormous amount of opposition to war has been found to exist among the peoples of the different countries. In less than fifteen days more than a thousand letters of protest against war were received by the Central Committee of the French Peace Societies. The Peace Bureau at Berne is collecting full statistics of the results of this peace "posting."

. . . The Cincinnati Arbitration and Peace Society held a public meeting in the rooms of the Business Men's Club on the evening of March 8. Addresses of exceptional strength were delivered by W. P. Rogers, dean of the Cincinnati Law School, and Samuel P. Butler, a vice-president of the Society. Dean Rogers said that "a nation has no more right to fight than a man has, and the world is coming to see this." Mr. Butler set forth in a series of fine, biting sentences the utter absurdity of war from the point of view both of commerce and commonsense. The Society will observe the 18th of May by another public meeting.

. . . In a recent address at the annual banquet of the Oberlin Alumni in Boston, Rev. James L. Barton, D. D., Foreign Secretary of the American Board, stated that "Oberlin College has had a large share in the great work for the peace of the world. Since 1870, one hundred and thirty-seven students of Oberlin have gone to foreign countries under the American Board alone. These are at the head of influential educational institutions, conducting extensive medical work, creating an influential Christian literature, and propagating everywhere a gospel of brotherly love. The harmony of nations and the peace of the world will come through the work of such men and women scattered around the globe rather than through heavy armaments and great navies."

. . . The Danish Minister of Foreign Affairs has asked the consent of the Danish parliament to the ratification of the treaties of obligatory arbitration with Belgium, France, Great Britain, Spain and Italy. The Danish government has attempted to have all these treaties drawn on lines similar to that with The Netherlands, that is, without limitations; but has succeeded with Italy only. In the matter of treaties of arbitration Denmark, The Netherlands and Italy are at the head of the procession.

. . . The Peace Propaganda Fund, created by the

Berne Peace Bureau, in accordance with the vote of the Peace Congresses, has risen to 16,812.10 francs.

. . . The Commission of the International Peace Bureau will hold its spring meeting at Berne, Switzerland, on Saturday, the 26th of May, to complete the program for the Fifteenth Peace Congress, etc.

. . . Mr. Leon Bourgeois, the new Minister of Foreign Affairs in the French Cabinet, was, as will be remembered, the chairman of the French Delegation to the Hague Conference in 1899. He is a pronounced and active friend of the cause of international arbitration.

. . . After the great French mine disaster, one of the saddest that has ever occurred, a salvage corps was sent across the border from Germany, from the Westphalian coal mines, with the best apparatus, stored oxygen, and breathing tubes. The French were inexpressibly grateful for the assistance rendered by the Germans, and when the Westphalian corps departed it was "amidst indescribable enthusiasm." A big French soldier is reported to have exclaimed: "In spite of Morocco we are down-right good friends and comrades." How luminous is an expression of humanity like this compared with horrible deeds of war committed in times past by Germans and Frenchmen against each other! Senator d'Estournelles de Constant sent a telegram of thanks to the German miners who had brought the aid.

. . . A number of members of the Japanese parliament have associated themselves together and formed a Group of the Interparliamentary Union.

Correspondence.

THE INAUGURATION OF PEACE AND ARBITRATION WORK
IN JAPAN.

30 Koun Machi.

TOKYO, March 15, 1906.

DR. B. F. TRUEBLOOD,

Secretary of the American Peace Society.

Dear Friend: Within the past few weeks many things of interest in connection with the peace cause have been claiming our attention.

On February 14 was held the first annual meeting of the "Council of the Friends of Peace and Arbitration." The report of the Executive Committee was interesting and encouraging, though, of course, the actual work done was very small. The report showed an increase in membership from fourteen to twenty. Among the new members is Bishop Fyson of the Church of England. The new members, all of them strong workers, have come in under a deep sense of the importance of the work. But as our annual report is now in the press I need not write more about this meeting. The report will be sent as soon as possible.

At the time of the annual meeting of our Council the Executive Committee was authorized to take steps toward calling a joint conference of Japanese and foreign workers who might be interested in organizing an arbitration and peace society adapted to present day conditions in Japan. We have always looked upon our present Council as only preparatory, and since it was organized during the war we have never invited any Japanese to join it, just working on in a quiet way until the hour should come for a more general movement.

Being convinced, by the signs of the times, and particularly by private interviews with reliable men, that the time had come for action, our Executive Committee prepared the following statement in Japanese:

"Recognizing the blessing and beauty of peace, believing in the practicability of arbitration in the settlement of industrial disturbances and international differences, and desiring to see the principles of peace and arbitration made known more widely, we, the undersigned, hereby express our desire to be present at the council which is to be held at the Y. M. C. A. parlors, March 14, at 3 P. M., for the purpose of considering the advisability of organizing a national peace and arbitration league suited to the present needs of Japan."

(Signatures.)

With this document (also a copy of the *ADVOCATE OF PEACE* and a copy of the "Report of the Boston Peace Congress") the Secretary of the Council spent ten days (and parts of nights) in interviewing reliable Christian men. The spirit of the movement was carefully and personally explained to every one as an effort to unify good reliable men in constructive work in support of arbitration, the development of international law and the cultivation of world-wide brotherhood. It was not an attempt to unify *opinion* concerning war, but rather to unify *effort* for the study and teaching of the great world-wide peace and arbitration movement among statesmen, educators, business men, specialists in international law, Christian workers, etc.

The result of this individual work was that about forty-five out of the best and most reliable men of Tokyo gladly (for there was never any urging) signed this call, and a number of others who could not be present wrote letters of approval to be read at the meeting. Among the men who signed were two members of Parliament, two judges (one of them chief of the Tokyo Court) three lawyers, two college presidents, five college and university professors and instructors, two physicians, two business men, two Y. M. C. A. secretaries, three editors, one bishop, the leading pastors of Tokyo, and a number of evangelists and missionaries.

About forty of these were present at the meeting yesterday. Greetings from those who could not attend, included a telegraphic greeting from the Missionary Conference (union) of Central Japan, then in session. There was a genuine and deep interest manifest. Dr. K. Ibuka, president of the Presbyterian College, was chosen as Chairman, Mr. Hirazawa, of the Tokyo Bar, Japanese Secretary, and Gilbert Bowles, English Secretary. After a most interesting and encouraging discussion, a committee of ten was appointed to draft a constitution and call another meeting. It is too early to predict the outcome of this movement, but the men who have taken hold of it are capable of stirring the nation.

Very sincerely yours,

GILBERT BOWLES.

The Strong and the Weak.

BY LUCIA AMES MEAD.*

The last century marked an astounding advance in the recognition of the rights of women, children and all within

*From Mrs. Mead's forthcoming manual for teachers on "Patriotism and the New Internationalism."